

Around the World with Stan Delaplane

HATHERSAGE, ENGLAND — This is a fine village in the English Midlands where the River Derwent flows through the eastern end of Hope Dale. The George is an old coaching inn. Polished brass beer pumps and a blazing coal fire. A room overlooking the garden goes for \$8 with a breakfast of Derbyshire ham and eggs included.

I got into this country following Robin Hood. Though it's far from Sherwood Forest, Little John is buried in the churchyard. It's an antique site. The church is Norman with some Saxon remains. Danish Vikings built earth forts on the hill.

Charlotte Bronte wrote part of "Jane Eyre" in the vicarage. The Eyre family is buried in the church under the finest brasses I ever saw. The knightly brass figures are on crypts, and the outlines are sharp.

Here's a place for overnight and to make brass rubbings. If you don't know how, get a book called "Monumental Brasses." Probably at Foyle's in London.

"We will have two weeks in England and don't want to spend it all in London. . ."

England is the best of driving countries. Thatched villages and leaded glass window pubs around the next turn in the lane. You must get off those freeway M-1s and A-2s. Pick roads that start with "B" followed by four numerals.

Now to find the warm pub with rich country soup and watercress fresh from the river. Here's a run of about a leisurely hundred miles a day across the south of England. London to Hawkhurst. You stay at the 300-year-old Tudor Arms. Good food and fine gardens.

Next day to Christchurch, Hampshire. The Kings Arms is an old (1796) coaching inn in the river Avon. Next to Dartington, Devon and Ye Olde Cott Inn. Excellent food and a good pub bar. This inn is the second oldest in England, and I thought one of the best.

Next day across wild Dartmoor and Exmoor to The Crown in Exford. So British that when I asked for ice in my drink, I could feel the disapproval of everybody in the place. Wonderful country village on the river Ex.

From here you can get on a main road and you're back in London that evening.

These country places usually have only ten to fifteen rooms — the pub really exists as a sort of club for the locals who drop in for their evening pint. I'd make sure of each day by having the place you stayed phone the next place and book a room.

"What is the tipping custom?"

The English use 12 per cent of the bill as the tip. (Why do we use 15 per cent?) Tip the porter a shilling a bag in and out. Bartenders — often bar maids — are never tipped. Ask her if you can buy her a beer. You can.

"What does it cost to rent a car? How about gasoline?"

I figured car rent with gas runs \$9 a day. You can rent with gas. Without gas. With limited or unlimited mileage. But I think it all works out much the same.

A handy book to carry is the "Blue Guide." Buy it in London. Tells you the history of each town. A good guide to places to stay and eat: "Egon Ronay-BMC Guide to Hotels, Restaurants, Pubs and Inns."

What's wrong with it? Well, English weather changes by the hour. And often for the worse. Be prepared for sunny mornings, pouring rain at noon and maybe freezing cold by night.

But I've had day after day of blue skies and rolling green countryside.

You won't get a room with

City Gets \$47,000 in Tax Funds

Capitol News Service
SACRAMENTO — State Controller Houston I. Flournoy today announced the distribution of \$5,831,204 in cigarette tax apportionments to the cities and counties.

The amount represents 30 per cent of the revenue deposited in the Cigarette Tax Fund during November, 1968.

Los Angeles County's share was \$142,368 and Torrance received \$47,387.

Police Capture Robbery Suspect

with an armed robbery suspect at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, just 3 1/2 hours after the Thriftmart store at 22217 Palms Verdes Blvd. was held up.

Arrested was William Roy Stephens, 20, of 12630 Gilmore Ave., Los Angeles, a painter. Stephens was nabbed while waiting for a taxi near the scene of the robbery, after police alerted the local cab company regarding the possibility of a call from

the suspect. Cab company officials summoned police when they received the suspicious call.

Police nearly apprehended the suspect immediately following the holdup when they observed him speeding away from the market in a truck. However, the suspect jumped out of the truck and eluded police on foot when the chase began.

It is not known how much cash was taken.

Dance Club Will Offer Lessons

Square dance lessons will be offered here by the Whirling Rainbows Square Dance Club in cooperation with the Redondo Beach Parks and Recreation Department.

Lessons, open to couples, will begin Wednesday, Jan. 22, at the St. James Church Hall, 415 Vincent St., Redondo Beach. The group will meet from 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Bob Richter will instruct the 20-week course. New students may enroll through Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Contract Awarded For Wells

An apparent low bid of \$59,207 has been submitted by Bowline Drilling Co. of Bakersfield for construction of another unit of the West Coast Basin Sea Barrier project in sections of Los Angeles, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, and Torrance.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace said the offer was low among four submitted to the County Flood Control District. High bid was \$82,269.

All bids will be checked by district engineers and the Board of Supervisors is expected to award a contract in 10 days.

The job calls for drilling six observation wells in sections of Arbor Vitae in Los Angeles, Douglas Street in El Segundo,

the future Redondo Avenue in Manhattan Beach, and Inglewood Avenue, Earl Street, and Ocean Avenue, all in Torrance. Drilling will start within three weeks after the contract award and take about five months to finish, Chace added.

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